THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WALFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI): (a) to (c) Banning of drugs does not come under the purview of the World Health Organisation. It only reports about the withdrawal or restrictions on the use of banning of drugs in any country. World Health Organisation have reported the withdrawal of 44 drugs from use in some countries. Of these, 26 drugs were not approved for marketing in India, 11 drugs have been withdrawn on the advice of experts and the remaining 7 drugs have been allowed for continued marketing in consultation with medical experts and experts bodies subject to necessary cautionary statement on the labels and package inserts.

(d) There is no report from State Licensing Authorities or from any other official source that the drugs banned by the Government through notification are available and moving in the market.

Enforcing advice of RBI on Private Sector Banks

1909. SHRI . O.P. KOHLI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to the answer given to Starred Question 457 in the Rajya Sabha on 3rd September, 1996 and state:

(a) whether the private sector banks have not taken heed to the advice of the Reserve Bank of India in the matter of transfer of their officials reasonable intervals and officers keep on staying at one place in one branch for more than ten years; and

(b) if so, what action Government propose to take to enforce the advice of the RBI on the private sector banks in this behalf keeping in view the large number of cases of frauds taking place in the banks including private sector banks?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b) Government has no role to play in the deployment of staff of private sector banks. Private Sector Banks are however, required to adhere to the guidelines issued by the Reserve Bank of India on the subject. According to RBI, Banks were advised to transfer their officers at reasonable intervals and in case of any difficulty, banks should identify all practices hindering the movement of staff from one place to another even in the same language area or in the same city and prepare and inventory with a view to finding ways and means of eliminating or effectively moderating them. RBI have no information, regarding private sector banks not heeding their advice.

Central Excise duty on Rosin

1910. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have removed the Central Excise Duty on Rosin produced without aid of power;

(b) if so, whether it is a fact that Central Excise Duty was not removed on production on Turpentine oil which is distilled out (about 12% to 15%) alongwith Rosin without use of power as by-product from Oleo Pine Rosin (OPR);

(c) if so, whether Government are considering appropriate modification in Government order to remove Central Excise Duty on Rosin and Turpentine produced by small units working without power from OPR; and

(d) details of action taken/proposed in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) Rosin manufactured without the aid of power has been fully exempted from Central Excise Duty w.e.f. 11.9.96.

(b) to (d) The Government have received representations for exemption from Central Excise duty on Turpentine Oil, manufactured without the aid of power, and distilled out alongwith Rosin. The representations will be examined while considering proposals for 1997-98 budget.